

D-8826

NOV 22 1938

Opium-Smoking In Prison

Cabaret Manager and Two Warders Charged: Bribery Alleged

The situation looks very bad for Chen Tseng-hsiung, manager of the An Lo Kwang Ballroom and Hotel in Pao Chai Pao San, popularly known as "Blood Alley," for he is charged with bribing warders of the Second Special District Court prison in order that he might have more freedom in the jail where he is to stay for six months on an opium-smoking charge. When he was brought before the tribunal on Monday afternoon, the judge took so serious a view of the case that he refused to grant bail. Two other prisoners and two warders also stood trial but they all denied that they were involved, then admitted having bribed the warders. Judgment will be passed on November 27.

The French police are still looking for two fugitive warders believed to have also been bribed in this serious case which has attracted so wide attention among the Chinese that the courtroom was crowded to capacity. Chen readily admitted that he had paid money to some warders in order that he might be able to "obtain boiled water" and cigarettes. His lawyers asked for leniency stating that their client's purpose of giving money to warders was to reduce his suffering and that his action did not violate law. The judge refused to grant their request for bail.

There was a heated debate between the Chief Procurator, who drew up the indictment against the accused, and lawyers for the defence. The procurator strongly urged the judge to punish all accused, explaining that despite their denial the accused warders could not shift their responsibility for receiving bribe money. Lawyers speaking on behalf of the accused warders did their best to exonerate their clients, asserting that the bribe money was received by the warders who are at large.

Chen was sentenced many weeks ago to six months' imprisonment and during the imprisonment he was supposed to get rid of his opium-smoking habit. It was alleged, however, that instead of trying to carry out the order he asked the warders twice to go to his hotel last month to obtain money to buy things which serve no purpose of the judge. The procurator soon got wind of what had happened and drew up an indictment charging him with bribery and the two warders, with malfeasance in Office. Two other prisoners were charged with instigating the bribery.

NOV 9 1939

Man Blackmailed In Prison

**Two Warders Abscond After
Extortion Attempt; Opium
Smoker Victim**

Two warders of the Second Special District Court Prison, who have fled from their jobs, are being sought by the French police while three prisoners and another warder in the same prison have been brought before the tribunal and detained in connection with a bribery case in which the three prisoners and warders are alleged to have connived in extorting \$150, from a new inmate in the prison.

The interest centres around Chen Tseng-hsiung, proprietor of the An Lo Kwung Ballroom in Rue Chu Pao San, who was recently sentenced to six months' imprisonment for smoking opium. He was first ordered to be sent to the detention quarters of the court where he was to get rid of his bad habit by undergoing a medical treatment for a month. But criminals are criminals and soon Chen was preyed upon by other inmates of the jail choosing him as their object of extortion.

Three other prisoners, Ching Chia-chi, Tao Yung-chang and Chen Chiu-sen, are alleged to have connived with three warders and succeeded in twice extorting money from the new prisoner. It was hush money but the chief warder soon got wind of what had happened, and finally the matter was brought to the attention of the procurator who started the prosecution. Meanwhile two of the warders fled.

When the case was again heard on Monday afternoon, all the accused tried to shift the responsibility of the crime and the judge had to postpone the hearing pending further investigations. One of the prisoners involved in the new case was once sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment charged with murder and was about to be released while another one was serving a one-year-and-six month prison term on a charge of counterfeiting.

File
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14 9 39

September 3, 1939.

Morning Translation.

Sin Shun Pao (Japanese-owned Chinese language newspaper):

"FIRST SPECIAL DISTRICT COURT PRESIDENT ARRESTED
BY FRENCH POLICE FOR OPIUM TRAFFICKING"

Many corrupt practices have been committed by officials of the subordinate organs of the Kuomintang Government. Recently the President of the Shanghai First Special District Court in the French Concession (?) appointed by the Kuomintang Government of Chungking was discovered secretly selling confiscated opium. This affair took place at the time when a demand was being lodged for the return of the Courts in the Foreign Settlements.

On the night of August 31, whilst patrolling in the vicinity of Avenue Foch and Avenue du Roi Albert in the French Concession, a search party of the French Municipal Council noticed a strange motor car travelling at high speed without lights. When the car was about to turn into Avenue du Roi Albert, the search party stopped the car and the search resulted in the discovery of a large quantity of opium under the seats.

The chauffeur, a Chinese, upon being interrogated, stated that the opium was being transported to a certain place for secret sale on the instructions of Yang Chi (楊奇), age 38, the President of the Shanghai First Special District Court.

Upon receipt of this information, the French Municipal Council despatched officials to the private residence of Yang Chi on Route Stanislas Chevalier. There the officers found another large quantity of opium. Yang Chi was secretly escorted to the French Municipal Council and an investigation was started.

In transporting confiscated opium to his private residence for secret sale, Yang Chi was abusing his authority. It is believed that the investigation will involve many officials of the Court in the affair.

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SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

File No.

S.I., Special Branch ~~XXXX~~ Station,

REPORT

Date September 4, 1939.

Subject Yang Chi (楊琦), President of the Shanghai Second Special District Court, arrested by French Police.

Made by D.I. Pan Lien Fih

Forwarded by

C. G. Gaudin

Yang Chi (楊琦), President of the Shanghai Second Special District Court (French Concession) since April, 1939, was arrested by the French Police at 7 a.m., August 31, 1939, for being concerned in the unlawful disposal of opium which had been confiscated by the Court. A considerable quantity of such opium was seized from his residence at 90 Rue Massenet. It is believed that his arrest was effected after consultation with the Ministry of Justice of the National Government at Chungking.

The unlawful activities of the President were discovered on an arrest of a male Chinese, who was found in possession of opium, by the French Police on Avenue Koch. Interrogation of this arrest revealed that the opium seized had been stolen from a storehouse of the Court where the confiscated opium was kept and that a substitute had been put in place of the genuine opium. In consequence, the storehouse keeper was also taken into custody by the French Police.

This case is being kept very confidential by the French Police and further particulars are unavailable at present.

Pan Lien-fih

D.I.

A. C. (Special Branch).

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CONFIDENTIAL

September 4, 39.

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CPP/

FORM NO. 3
G. 65M-1-39

CONFIDENTIAL

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

File No. _____

S.1, Special Branch Station, _____

REPORT

Date March 2, 1939.

Subject (in full) Refusal of President of Shanghai Second Special District Court to relinquish post.

Made by D.I. Pan Lien-pih. Forwarded by C. S. _____

With reference to Special Branch report of December 3, 1938, on the above subject, Mr. Wong Sze-ruh (王思然), President of the Shanghai Second Special District Court who was dismissed by the Ministry of Justice in November 1938 and refused to hand over his post to his successor, has now given up his defiant stand due it is reported, to persuasion on the part of Mr. Yang Bang (楊鵬), President of the Third Branch of the Kiangsu High Court, and the French Consul-General. Mr. Wong handed over the reins of office on or about February 28 to Mr. Yang Bang, who now acts concurrently as President of the Shanghai Second Special District Court as Mr. Yang Chi (楊琦), the official appointed by the Government was recalled to Chungking.



FILE

P.A. to D.C. (Sp. Br.)

D.C. (Special Branch).

Commr

Information

Pan Lien-pih
D. I.

J. H. Robertson

CHINA PRESS

No. S. B.

Date

MAR 1 1939

Yang Peng Takes Over Second Special District Court Post

Mr. Yang Peng, Chief Judge of the Third High Court, yesterday officially assumed the concurrent post of Chief Judge of the Second Special District Court, pending the arrival of the new appointee from Chungking. Mr. Yang succeeds Mr. Wang Shih-mo.

It is recalled that Mr. Wang began winding up the affairs of the court about three months ago when an order came from Chungking, directing him to relinquish the post.

A long-drawn-out squabble between Mr. Wang and the appointee, Mr. Yang Chi, resulted after the former refused to give up his office to the new arrival.

It was reported that when Mr. Yang Chi posted a public notice in front of the court house announcing his assumption of office, Judge Wang, with his own hands, tore down the notice and continued to function as judge of the tribunal.

A settlement of the dispute was not reached until the recall of Mr. Yang Chi to Chungking by the national authorities.

56 1/3

CONFIDENTIAL
SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE

S.2 Special Branch

REPORT

Date } Dec. 5 1938.

Subject (in full) Dismissal of President Wong Sze Muh (王恩默) from the
Second Special District Court.

Made by _____ and _____ Forwarded by Supt. Tan Shao Liang

Further to report dated November 4, on the
above subject, information has been secured from employees
of the Court to the effect that Mr. Yang Chi (楊琦),
the new President appointed by the Chungking Government,
is unable to take over the post in consequence of the
stubborn attitude of Wong Sze Muh, and that he (Yang) left
Shanghai for Hongkong on December 1.

It is alleged that Wong is being backed up by
certain diplomatic officials and influential Chinese who
are connected with the Frenchtown fraternity.

DBL
5/2
D. C. (Special Branch)

Tan Shao Liang
Superintendent.

Commr
Sir
Information
J. H. Robertson
DC(S13)

Ref. No.

Headquarters,
Shanghai Municipal Police,
December 5, 1938.

SUBJECT

Refusal of President of Shanghai
2nd. Special District Court to
relinquish post.

The Commissioner presents his compliments to Secretary, S.M.C.
for Secretary General.
and begs to forward herewith the following documents relative to the
subject referred to above

1. Copy of a Police Report.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

It is learned that this disregard of official orders on the part of Mr. Wong Sze-muh is due chiefly to the support

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

File No.

REPORT

.....Station,

Date 19

Subject.....

Made by..... Forwarded by.....

allegedly given him by the local French Consular Authorities, his close connection with the local French Community having been enhanced by the fact that his wife is of French nationality and he himself a French returned student. The extraordinary circumstances prevailing at present in this part of the country, where practical influence and authority of the National Government is almost nil, is also a contributing factor in the defiant stand taken by Wong Sze-muh.

In an endeavour to uphold the prestige of the Government, the Ministry of Justice in Chungking issued on November 28, 1938, instructions to Mr. Yang Bang (楊朋島), President of the Third Branch of the Kiangsu High Court, in the French Concession, to persuade Mr. Wong Sze-muh to hand over his post in accordance with the Government's orders, and Mr. Yang Chi also received telegraphic instructions from Chungking, requesting him to return to Chungking and submit a report on the details of the dispute.

21.6.1939

THH

File No.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

S.1, Special Branch ~~XXXX~~,

REPORT

Date December 3, 1938.

Subject..... Refusal of President of Shanghai Second Special District
Court to relinquish post.

Made by... D.I. Pan Lien Pih

Forwarded by.....

With reference to the attached translation of a news article published in the November 25th issue of the Standard in connection with the reported dispute arising from the refusal of Mr. Wong Sze-muh (王思默), President of the Shanghai Second Special District Court, to hand over his post to his successor, I have to state that the dismissal of Mr. Wong Sze-muh as President of the Shanghai Second Special District Court was ordered sometime ago by the Ministry of Justice of the Judicial Yuan of the National Government in Chungking, and that Mr. Yang Chi (楊琦), has since been appointed and instructed to proceed here to take over the post.

On November 24, 1938, when Mr. Yang Chi visited the Second Special District Court on Route Stanislas Chevalier in the French Concession, with the intention of assuming office as President, he was prevented from doing so by Mr. Wong Sze-muh, who flatly refused to hand the post over to him. Meanwhile, the proclamation, which was posted on the Court premises by Mr. Yang Chi upon his arrival, announcing his assumption of office as President of the Shanghai Second Special District Court, was removed by order of Mr. Wong Sze-muh. Because of this deadlock, Mr. Yang Chi left the Court and requested Dr. Chu Min-nyi (褚民誼), Member of the Central Executive Committee of the Kuomintang now in Shanghai, to mediate. Dr. Chu's efforts, however, also proved fruitless as Mr. Wong was adamant.

It is learned that this disregard of official orders on the part of Mr. Wong Sze-muh is due chiefly to the support

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SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

File No.

REPORT

Station,
Date 19

Subject

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In an endeavour to uphold the prestige of the Government, the Ministry of Justice in Chungking issued on November 28, 1938, instructions to Mr. Yang Bang (楊鵬), President of the Third Branch of the Kiangsu High Court, in the French Concession, to persuade Mr. Wong Sze-muh to hand over his post in accordance with the Government's orders, and Mr. Yang Chi also received telegraphic instructions from Chungking, requesting him to return to Chungking and submit a report on the details of the dispute.

Pan Lien-pih

D. I.

D.C. (Special Branch)

November 25, 1938.

Morning Translation

Standard and other local newspapers :-

THE NEW PRESIDENT OF THE SHANGHAI SECOND SPECIAL DISTRICT COURT

Dr. Yang Chi (楊奇), M.A., a graduate of "Lu Wang" University (魯王大學), France, who was formerly Procurator of the Shanghai District Court and Chief Procurator of the High Court at Kweichow, was recently transferred as President of the Shanghai Second Special District Court by order of the Ministry of Justice. He arrived in Shanghai several days ago and as Mr. Wong Sze-muh (王思穆); the retiring President of the Second Special District Court, is delaying the handing over of his post, Dr. Yang wrote to Mr. Wong the other day informing him that he would assume the post on November 24.

At about 9 a.m. yesterday Dr. Yang called on Mr. Wong Sze-muh at the Second Special District Court and explained the object of his call. Mr. Wong refused to hand over the post. At 11.30 a.m. Dr. Yang instructed his men to post up the following proclamation at the entrance of the Court :-

"In compliance with Order No.1673 issued by the Ministry of Justice appointing me as President of the Shanghai Second Special District Court, I have assumed my office as from this date. The ceremony of oath-taking will take place later.

President Yang Chi,
November 24, 1938."

Dr. Yang also issued a circular memo to the Judges of the Civil and Criminal Divisions informing them of his assumption of office. At 11.40 a.m. he proceeded to the Third Branch of the Kiangsu High Court to make a similar report. Five minutes after Dr. Yang left his office, Mr. Wong Sze-muh tore off the proclamation posted by Dr. Yang.

Retiring President's Explanation

Mr. Wong Sze-muh is said to have made the following statement :- "I have served in the Courts for a number of years in the course of which I have never done anything illegal and I have been loyal to the country. Unexpectedly I have been dismissed by the Government. I am not opposing the handing over of my post, but the procedure adopted by Dr. Yang Chi to take over the post was irregular. As I have held the present post for several years, many cases have come through my hands and it is impossible to hand over all these affairs in a short time. I am expediting the handing over from to-day and I shall notify my superior to detail an official to take over the office as soon as I have settled all affairs. I shall not do anything harmful to the country. In coming here to-day to take over the office, Dr. Yang Chi was accompanied by Hsu San-long (許三郎). The public should know what sort of man Hsu San-long is."

High Court Official Makes Statement

The following is a statement by a spokesman of the Third Branch of the Kiangsu High Courts:-

November 25, 1936.

Morning Translation.

"The unfortunate incident between the old and new Presidents of the Shanghai Second Special District Court has arisen because of lack of proper arrangements between the two parties. It is not likely that Mr. Wong Sze-muh will refuse to hand over the post. It is only a question of time. Naturally the High Court is paying attention to this matter and it is possible that it will succeed in making the two Presidents of the District Court come to terms, thereby effecting an amicable solution".

Report Sent to Chungking

Yesterday Dr. Yang Chi made a report to the Third Branch of the Kiangsu High Court about the removal of his proclamation.. He has sent a telegram to the Ministry of Justice asking for instructions.

At 2 p.m. yesterday the Procuratorate of the Third Branch of the Kiangsu High Court detailed a Procurator to investigate the removal of the proclamation in order that the matter might be dealt with according to law. Dr. Yang Chi was unable to attend office yesterday afternoon, but the Civil and Criminal Courts of the District Court functioned as usual.

Ta Ying Pao :-

Serious Allegation Against Wong Sze-muh

On November 24, Mr. Wong Sze-muh, the discharged President of the Shanghai Second Special District Court, refused to hand over his office to the new President.

Wong Sze-muh, age 43, native of Chekiang, is a graduate of Paris University. His wife is a French lady. He has been residing in Shanghai for a long time. He is fond of tennis. However, it seems that his nerves are not in proper order for he frequently behaves in an abnormal manner.

In autumn this year, somebody made a complaint against Wong Sze-muh with the Ministry of Justice of the National Government alleging improper action in a certain case. After making an investigation, the Ministry of Justice relieved him of his post. When he called on the French authorities to say farewell, officials of the French authorities, according to custom, expressed regret over his departure. Mistaking this expression of regret as a desire for his retention at the post, Wong decided not to hand over his office. When the new President arrived in Shanghai, many people connected with judicial circles persuaded Wong to hand over his office and the latter agreed to do so. Yesterday, he changed his mind.

According to a report from a reliable source, the private motor car belonging to Wong Sze-muh was noticed recently in front of the New Asia Hotel (新亞酒店), Hongkew, on two occasions. However, persons who are closely connected with Wong say that the car was lent to some French friends of his wife and that Wong had never crossed the bridge into Hongkew.

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SHANGHAI TIMES.

DEC 2 1938

JUDGE ORDERED BACK TO CHUNGKING

Government Wants Full
Report On Dispute
Between Jurists

Yang Chi, the newly appointed judge of the Second Special District Court, left Shanghai for Chungking yesterday upon orders of the Chinese Government, in connection with the dispute over the office of the court judge, it was learnt yesterday.

Yang received the Government summons a few days ago, in which it was stated that he should go to Chungking as soon as possible in order personally to make a report of the dispute.

The incumbent judge, Wang Shih-mo, who received an indirect order of dismissal from the Third Kiangsu High Court, allegedly refused to give up his post on the ground that he had not been notified by the authorities.

The new judge arrived in Shanghai on November 24, but owing to slight indisposition, could not assume office immediately. After his convalescence, it was reported, he did not take charge of the court, because the incumbent judge refused to be relieved.

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CHINA PRESS.

DEC 1 1938

Dispute Over Court Post Said Temporarily Settled

The dispute over the office of the Second Special District Court judge reached a temporary settlement yesterday when Judge Yang Chi, the new appointee, was ordered to Chungking by the Minister of Justice, Chinese reports said yesterday.

The dispute arose when Judge Wang Shi-mo, the incumbent judge, refused to give up his post to the incoming judge, his contention being that he had not yet received

official notification from the Minister of the dismissal and of the successor.

Meanwhile, it was reported that Judge Wang is winding up his affairs in the court and expects to turn the office over to anyone duly appointed to take over the post.

Judge Yang, the reports said, will leave Shanghai for the war time capital in the near future.

November 30, 1938.

Morning Translation

Standard and other local newspapers :-

THE SHANGHAI SECOND SPECIAL DISTRICT COURT

In connection with the dispute over the handing over of the Shanghai Second Special District Court, a telegram has been sent by the Ministry of Justice of the National Government directing Mr. Yang Bang (楊鵬), President of the Third Branch of the Kiangsu High Court, to instruct Mr. Wong Sze-muh (王恩默), the retiring President of the Second Special District Court, to expedite the handing over of his post and to order Mr. Yang Chi (楊琪), the newly appointed President, to proceed to Chungking after assuming the post to submit a report on the affair.

Ta Ying Yeh Pao of November 29 :-

According to reliable information received, Mr. Zie Kwen-sung (謝冠生), Minister of Justice, sent a telegram to Mr. Yang Chi, the new President of the Shanghai Second Special District Court, on November 28 ordering him to report himself immediately at the Ministry for instructions. It is learned that Mr. Yang Chi called on Mr. Yang Bang, President of the Third Branch of the Kiangsu High Court, on the morning of November 29 to inform him of his departure. He will probably leave Shanghai for Chungking in a few days.

On November 28 Mr. Wong Sze-muh, the retiring President, also called on the President of the Third Branch of the Kiangsu High Court and informed him that he was ready to hand over his affairs and asking him to instruct the new President to take over the post.

However, as Mr. Yang Chi is leaving for Chungking, his taking over of the office will have to be postponed.

November 29, 1938.

Afternoon Translation.

Ts. Ying Yeh Pao dated Nov. 28:

THE AFFAIR OF THE SHANGHAI SECOND SPECIAL DISTRICT COURT

Mr. Wong Sze-muh (王思默), the former President of the Shanghai Second Special District Court, is still refusing to hand over his post. After the Third Branch of the Kiangsu High Court had reported to the Ministry of Justice asking for instructions, the National Government sent a telegram to Shanghai ordering Wong to hand over his post at once as ordered.

Upon receiving his appointment from the Ministry of Justice on November 24, Mr. Yang Chi (楊琪) came to Shanghai and went to the Shanghai Second Special District Court to take over the post, but Wong Sze-muh refused to hand over his duty and tore off the proclamation issued by the new President announcing his assumption of office. Upon learning of this, the Third Branch of the Kiangsu High Court conducted an investigation and made a report to the National Government asking for instructions.

From enquiries made by a reporter of this paper among judicial circles, the Ministry of Justice has sent a telegram to Shanghai ordering Wong Sze-muh to hand over his post at once. The Third Branch of the Kiangsu High Court has shown this telegram to Wong Sze-muh.

At noon to-day Wong Sze-muh attended office as usual, but nothing was done to hand over his post to the new President.

Certain persons connected with judicial circles have made the following observations:-

- 1) The delay to hand over the post is said to be due to the large number of documents to be cleared up, but the new President had notified Wong of his arrival some weeks ago, and he has had sufficient time to make preparations to hand over his post.
- 2) If Wong is dissatisfied with the action of the National Government, he should first hand over his post and take up the matter with the Government; he should not have refused to hand over his office.
- 3) Wong has made certain statements against the new President - a thing unheard of.

It is said that Wong will hand over his post if the new President will grant his demands.

November 28, 1938.

Afternoon Translation

Crystal (晶報), a mosquito newspaper :-

THE DISPUTE BETWEEN THE OLD AND THE NEW PRESIDENTS OF THE
SHANGHAI SECOND SPECIAL DISTRICT COURT

Mr. Wong Sze-muh (王思默), President of the Shanghai Second Special District Court, who has held this position for a number of years, was relieved of his post last month. He is to be succeeded by Mr. Yang Chi (楊琦), Chief Procurator of the District Court at Kweichow and formerly a Procurator of the Shanghai District Court at Nantao. Thus he is acquainted with conditions in this locality.

Upon receiving the new appointment, Mr. Yang came to Shanghai about a fortnight ago but so far he has not succeeded in taking over the office because Mr. Wong Sze-muh, the retiring President, has refused to hand over his duties claiming that he has not yet received instructions from the Ministry of Justice and further that owing to the great number of documents it will take him sometime to settle them.

The other day Mr. Yang together with some of his men personally called at the Shanghai Second Special District Court to assume office, but Mr. Wong refused to see him. In consequence, Mr. Yang secured an interview with Mr. Sung Shao-kong (蔣紹康), the Chief Procurator, and discussed with him ways and means to settle the affair. In the course of the conversation, Mr. Sung lent to Mr. Yang his seal of Chief Procurator with which Mr. Yang issued a proclamation announcing his assumption of office. This proclamation was posted at the entrance to the Court premises by Hsu San-long (許三郎), one of Mr. Yang's men, who strictly warned the policeman at the gate to look after the proclamation and to arrest any person, even Mr. Wong Sze-muh himself, who attempted to remove the proclamation. Mr. Yang then left without succeeding in taking over the office. After Mr. Yang's departure, Mr. Wong tore off the proclamation.

It is learned that Mr. Yang has reported the whole affair to the Ministry of Justice asking for instructions, whereas Mr. Wong, on his part, has given indications that he will refuse to hand over his duties and is even making use of the employment of Hsu San-long by Mr. Yang as an excuse to attack Mr. Yang. It is said that Hsu San-long had at one time been charged and convicted of a criminal offence when he was holding the post of Chief of the Detective Squad (?) of the Shanghai District Court at Nantao.

Shanghai Daily News (上海日報), a mosquito newspaper, dated November 27 :-

Most of the official organs of the National Government in Shanghai have changed flag due to the hostilities, but there are several organs which, through the efforts of the authorities of the Foreign Settlements, have so far been able to maintain their independence.

Lately, the President of a certain official organ was relieved of his post by order of the Government because on a certain day his motor car was noticed in Hongkew. The authorities appointed a Mr. "Mo Yee" (木易) to succeed him. When the new President first met the retiring President to make arrangements, the latter's attitude was very firm and he was understood to have declared that if anybody wished to hold the post he should get into touch with a certain Consul and should do as this Consul wished. The new President was displeased and reported to his superiors for instructions. About ten days later the new President received instructions ordering him to assume the post, but the retiring President still refuses to withdraw.

November 26, 1938.

Morning Translation.

Ta Ying Pao:

THE NEW PRESIDENT OF THE SECOND SPECIAL DISTRICT COURT

The dispute between Mr. Wong Sze-muh (王惠默), the old President of the Second Special District Court, and Dr. Yang Chi (楊琪), the new President, has not yet been settled. Yesterday Mr. Wong attended office as usual but nothing was done to hand over his post.

In the afternoon our reporter went to the Third Branch of the Kiangsu High Court to call on Mr. Yang Bang (楊鵬), the President, but was received by one Mr. Chang (張), who made the following statement:- "It is not likely that Mr. Wong will refuse to hand over the post. As a matter of fact, Mr. Wong requires plenty of time to settle his affairs."

When he was told that Dr. Yang has been in Shanghai for two weeks and has notified Mr. Wong to hand over the post, Mr. Chang made no reply, but simply stated that the Third Branch of the Kiangsu High Court had submitted a report to the Ministry of Justice, asking for instructions.

It is reported that Dr. Yang is ill and will have to undergo treatment.

CHINA PRESS.

NOV 26 1938

District Judge Awaits Orders On Succession

Wang Denies He Refuses To Yield Post To New Appointee

Denying that he had refused to turn over his portfolio to a new appointee, Judge Wang Shi-mo, head of the Second Special District Court, told THE CHINA PRESS yesterday that he would do so on receipt of an order from the National Government.

The statement was made in connection with reports circulated yesterday in the vernacular press to the effect that a serious dispute had arisen between Judge Wang and the new appointee, Judge Yang Chi, when the latter attempted to take over the post.

Wang Issues Statement

In his statement, Judge Wang said he had not yet received the order from the National Government.

"As soon as I receive from the Government the order decreeing the new appointment, it will be my duty to turn over my post to the new appointee," Judge Wang said.

Yang Expects Settlement

Meanwhile, a representative of Judge Yang, at a press interview, told Chinese newspaper men that "the whole matter will be settled shortly." Judge Yang, he said, does not believe that his predecessor would refuse to turn over his post.

Earlier reports said that when Judge Yang posted an official announcement in front of the court house, informing the public of the appointment, Judge Wang tore down the notice with his own hands.

COPIES
11/26/38
P. 11/26/38

SHANGHAI TIMES.

NOV 25 1936

JUDGES IN DISPUTE IN FRENCHTOWN

Second District Court
Officials Reported At
Loggerheads

When an ordinary official in China defies orders from his superiors it is not news, but when a chief judge of a court does this, refusing to hand over his portfolio to his successor duly appointed by the Ministry of Justice, it is something new. This happened in the Second Special District Court yesterday when Judge Wang Shimo, the present chief judge, refused to let his successor Judge Yang Chi take up his new duties.

It was alleged by Chinese sources that Judge Yang's first official announcement stating that he officially took up his duties yesterday, which was posted in front of the court building, was torn down by his predecessor who went about his routine business as usual. No official reason was given by the present chief judge for his alleged refusal to carry out the ministerial order.

Besides asking the chief judge of the Third Branch Kiangsu High Court in the French Concession for instructions regarding this matter, Judge Yang is said to have also referred the matter to the Ministry. It would appear that both sides were determined, but it is news that the chief judge should have torn down his successor's notice with his own hands, if the Chinese reports are true.

Although no official reason could be obtained yesterday in regard to the apparent divergence of opinion between the two judges, it was said that for his neglect of office, as was alleged in a Chinese evening report, Judge Wang's service as a judicial official had been discontinued by the Ministry for two years. His successor Judge Yang came here only recently from Kweichow where he had been the chief judge of a district court. His negotiations with the present chief judge for taking over new duties proved unsuccessful and yesterday he asked his assistants to post his first announcement, disregarding Judge Wang.

Ref. No.....

Headquarters,
Shanghai Municipal Police,
November 7, 1938..

SUBJECT

Alleged scandal in the 2nd Special District
Court resulting in dismissal of President Wong
Sz Muh.

The Commissioner presents his compliments to A/Secretary, S.M.C.
for Secretary General
and begs to forward herewith the following documents relative to the
subject referred to above

1. Copy of a Police Report.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

S.2 Special Branch ~~Station~~

REPORT

Date 19

Subject. Alleged scandal in the Second Special District Court resulting
in dismissal of President Wong Sz Muh (王 思 牧).

Made by Forwarded by

The sudden dismissal of Wong Sz Muh, President of the Second Special District Court has caused a great sensation and much speculation among Chinese especially the Frenchtown gang. According to rumours the removal of the President has something to do with a case of bribery involving a sum of \$35,000 in connection with a case still pending in which Hsu Ting Yu (許廷鈺), Director of the Zung Foong Dyeing and Weaving Factory, is charging Tsu Keng Dau (朱廣陶), the manager, with misappropriation of a huge sum of money. The accused put up a defense through Eugene Y.B. Kiang and other lawyers alleging that the money had been spent in October or November 1937 when General Yang Hu, the Woosung-Shanghai Defence Commissioner, demanded payment of a huge sum of money to settle a case ^{of} alleged treason against Zia Kuh Ming (謝克明), proprietor of the factory.

The complainant Hsu Ting Yu was represented by lawyer Chang Fah Yau (張法堯), son of Chang Siao Ling, a gang leader of Frenchtown, and naturally he is backed up by the latter. It is alleged that to win the case Chang Siao Ling paid \$35,000 to Wong Sz Muh, the President. This became known to the defendant who approached Hwang Ching Yung (黃金榮), another leader of racketeers, for assistance. Hwang, it is said, sent for lawyer Chang Fah Yau and tried to settle the case outside the Court. Chang refused. This annoyed Hwang Ching Yung who then approached the judge who tried the case named Cheu Hwan Ying and the latter agreed to help. Fearing that this would prove disadvantageous to his client, Chang Fah Yau interviewed Wong Sz Muh the President, and caused the judge to be removed from the case. According to the Court procedure, the President has the right

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

File No.

REPORT

..... Station,

Date 19

Subject

Made by Forwarded by

to transfer a judge from the Criminal to the Civil Section and vice versa, but it is illegal to transfer a judge who is trying a case to hear another case in the same section. The judge referred to also held certain documentary instructions from the President in the case. With the evidence he laid a complaint through the influence of Hwang Ching Yung to the Judicial Yuan with the result stated.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

File No.

REPORT

S. 2 Special Precinct, No. S. B. D. 117
Date November 4, 1938.

Subject..... Alleged scandal in the Second Special District Court resulting
in dismissal of President Wong Sz Muh (王恩穆).

Made by..... and..... Forwarded by..... Supt. Tan Shao Liang

The sudden dismissal of Wong Sz Muh, President of the Second Special District Court has caused a great sensation and much speculation among Chinese especially the Frenchtown gang. According to rumours the removal of the President has something to do with a case of bribery involving a sum of \$35,000 in connection with a case still pending in which Hsu Ting Yu (许廷钰), Director of the Lung Foong Dyeing and Weaving Factory, is charging Tsu Keng Dau (朱廣南), the manager, with misappropriation of a huge sum of money. The accused put up a defense through Eugene Y.B. Kiang and other lawyers alleging that the money had been spent in October or November 1937 when General Yang Hu, the Woosung-Shanghai Defence Commissioner, demanded payment of a huge sum of money to settle a case of alleged treason against Zia Kuh Ming (谢志明), proprietor of the factory.

The complainant Hsu Ting Yu was represented by lawyer Chang Fah Yau (张发耀), son of Chang Siao Ling, a gang leader of Frenchtown, and naturally he is backed up by the latter. It is alleged that to win the case Chang Siao Ling paid \$35,000 to Wong Sz Muh, the President. This became known to the defendant who approached Hwang Ching Yung (黄金荣) another leader of racketeers, for assistance. Hwang, it is said, sent for lawyer Chang Fah Yau and tried to settle the case outside the Court. Chang refused. This annoyed Hwang Ching Yung who then approached the judge who tried the case named Cheu Hwan Ying and the latter agreed to help. Fearing that this would prove disadvantageous to his client, Chang Fah Yau interviewed Wong Sz Muh the President, and caused the judge to be removed from the case. According to the Court procedure, the President has the right

Sec
for Sec Gen



SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

File No.

REPORT

Station,

Date 19

-2-

Subject

Made by Forwarded by

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Tan Shao-han
Superintendent.

D. C. (Special Branch)

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New President Named For Frenchtown Court

Mr. Wong Shih-mob, president of the Second Special District Court in the French Concession, has been relieved of his post by the Ministry of Justice in Chungking, it was announced today. Mr. Yang Che, a former prosecutor of the Nantao District Court, was appointed his successor.

Rumors that Mr. Wong was relieved of his post for his alleged connection with the "Reformed Government" in Nanking were emphatically denied at the court this morning.

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